

summertrios

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The Concerto Program – The Soloist (June 10 – 15, 2012, Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, PA)

Imagine yourself as the soloist in your favorite concerto or aria, with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia sounding in your ears. You will rehearse, have a personal consultation with the conductor and perform in the final concert. The challenge will inspire you to achieve huge gains in your playing or singing, as the program is open to strings, winds, pianists and singers. A recording of your performance is included.

Six Day Program Includes:

- four rehearsals with piano reduction
- consultation with orchestra conductor
- one or two rehearsals with orchestra
- Performance (invite guests)
- extra time on any of above if you request

Frequently asked questions

Do I have to be a really good player?

No. If you feel you would benefit from this program you are welcome.

At Summertrios we believe that everyone has the potential to learn and grow. We do not have entrance requirements for any of our programs. Some Concerto Program participants are very advanced amateurs, or professionals, who want that rare chance to play a concerto with a professional orchestra. Others who are not so advanced have attended and enjoyed great musical growth and a wonderful, fulfilling experience.

What would be the benefit for an amateur?

You will have the thrill of playing the world's most beautiful repertoire with a wonderful orchestra. You will make great progress in your playing. You will gain self-confidence from conquering a big challenge. And you may have more fun than you ever had before in your life. As you prepare for the rehearsals with the orchestra, you will find yourself motivated to work harder than ever before. Further, you may have to conquer technical challenges that never before needed such serious effort. The awesome orchestra sound enveloping you as you play creates an inimitable experience.

What if I am a professional?

You are very welcome at the program. Each year several professionals do participate in the program and gain practical performance experience, as well as a demo recording.

What repertoire may I choose?

You may choose any solo repertoire with orchestral accompaniment. More than a 40 piece orchestra will require additional fees. See the list of suggested repertoire on the website for strings, winds, brass and piano. Theoretically any concerto can be done.

Do I have to play from memory?

It is your choice. Most participants use music.

What do people usually play? How many movements?

People play whatever they like -- thus far they have played concertos by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Copland, Grieg, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Schumann, Saint-Saens, Lalo, Rachmaninoff, Shostakovich and Vieuxtemps, among others. Some people play one movement, some people play two, and some play the entire concerto.

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How much time do I have to rehearse my concerto?

Basic rehearsal time is based on doing one 15-minute movement. We allow four hours of rehearsal with piano reduction and you may add more hours at extra cost. With the orchestra the basic time allowance is one 25 minute rehearsal, followed by a 15 minute open rehearsal (performance) on a subsequent day. You may invite guests to the open rehearsal. See the price list in the Concerto Application. Extra rehearsal and performance time as you need may be arranged.

Who are the rehearsal pianists?

They are all excellent professional pianists from the Summertrios faculty.

Is there any coaching?

The conductor will attend one of your piano reduction rehearsal sessions. He will make musical suggestions as well as reviewing your concerto to understand your intentions. Your professional pianists are also well qualified to provide coaching if you request it.

What performances are there?

Our performances are open rehearsals that may be attended by all of your friends and family.

Why is it so expensive?

The main cost is in the hiring of a large number of professional orchestral musicians, plus a conductor. Additionally, Summertrios hires a performance hall and rents a concert grand Steinway piano as well as additional rehearsal pianos.

What is included in the cost?

Room and board at the college, facilities fees, tuition, and basic rehearsal package with professional pianists and orchestra. Additional time with the pianists or orchestra may be purchased with advance notice. Costs vary depending on the size of the orchestra needed for your concerto.

Payment

Payment is due in full by February 1, 2012. We regret that refunds are not possible, as we must contract with the orchestra and conductor immediately upon registration.